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# Articles in Today's Clips

**Friday, July 13, 2007**

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## THE ANN ARBOR NEWS

### **Daughter charged with elder abuse**

Sick mother walked off, froze to death when left alone

Friday, July 13, 2007

**BY SUSAN L. OPPAT**

**News Staff Reporter**

The daughter of a Salem Township woman who froze to death in March has been charged with vulnerable adult abuse for reportedly leaving her mother - who had Alzheimer's disease - alone for 26 hours.

Subrenia Dout, 45, faces up to four years in prison if convicted of the felony charge. She was scheduled to undergo a preliminary examination in 14A-1 District Court Thursday, but the hearing was delayed until Aug. 9.

State Police Trooper Greg Setla said Dout told him she left her mother, 67-year-old Djuna Fay Clark, alone at about noon on March 15 to help a friend. She said she didn't get anyone to care for her mother while she was gone, and when she returned the next day at 2 p.m., her mother was gone, Setla said.

Police searched for Clark in the cold for the rest of that day and found her wallet on Eight Mile Road - more than 3 miles from her home. On March 17, Clark's body was found in a ditch along Pontiac Trail, five miles from home, and she was not wearing a coat.

The county medical examiner's office concluded Clark died of hypothermia.

Authorities later learned Clark had been seen early March 16 by a passerby who called 911 to report an elderly woman who appeared confused and wasn't wearing a coat as she walked along Pontiac Trail. Clark had not yet been reported missing, and dispatchers alerted troopers to check the area for the women when time permitted.

Detective Sgt. James Bundshuh said troopers were dispatched to several traffic crashes a short time later and never made it to Salem Township to check on that report.

Susan Oppat can be reached at [soppat@annarbornews.com](mailto:soppat@annarbornews.com) or at 734-482-1166.

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## Boy, 4, tells of fondling by man at day care center

**FLINT**

**THE FLINT JOURNAL FIRST EDITION**

Thursday, July 12, 2007

**By Paul Janczewski**

**pjanczewski@flintjournal.com • 810.766.6333**

Swiveling in his too-big witness chair, the restless 4-year-old boy with dark hair played with the microphone while fielding uncomfortable questions from adults he did not know.

Papa "touched my pee-pee," he said with coaxing from Assistant Genesee County Prosecutor Michelle Richardson.

"Papa" is what he and other children called Jerry L. Anderson, whose wife, Marsha, ran Nannie's House day care center at 7377 Porter Road in Grand Blanc Township.

After a preliminary examination Wednesday, Anderson, 61, of Grand Blanc Township was ordered by Central District Judge David J. Goggins to stand trial on a charge of second-degree criminal sexual conduct, a 15-year felony.

Other witnesses at the hearing included two of Anderson's daughters, who testified that their father told them he sexually molested the boy and admitted to being a pedophile.

Anderson, who faces a July 23 circuit court arraignment, remains free on a \$20,000 cash bond.

The Flint Journal is not identifying the boy or his mother.

The mother said she took her son, "a typical 4-year-old," to the day care center from September 2005 through April 2007 but stopped when the boy and another person told her of the inappropriate touchings.

The boy said Anderson crawled into bed with him at nap time on a number of occasions and touched his penis under his clothing.

As he testified, the child swiveled in his chair, slouched occasionally, kicked his feet and sometimes just ignored the probing questions.

But he pointed directly at Anderson when asked if he knew him, and called him Papa.

The day care's license was revoked in late April by the office of Children and Adult Licensing, a state bureau overseeing day care centers under the auspices of the state Department of Human Services.

Earlier, Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton said officials are investigating other complaints received about the day care.

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## Woman sentenced for torturing twins

July 12, 2007

BY DAN CORTEZ

FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER

A Warren woman convicted of torturing her twin 8-year-old daughters was sentenced today to up to 25 years in prison.

Tamika Williams, 30, was convicted June 6 of two counts of torture and two counts of first-degree child abuse. Macomb County Circuit Court Judge Mary Chrzanowski sentenced Williams to 15 to 25 years on the torture charges, and 10-15 years on the abuse charges. The sentences will be served concurrently.

Williams used the twins as ashtrays, stabbed them with glass and knives, burned them with cigarette lighters and beat them, according to court filings. Williams said the twins harmed themselves and that she didn't notice the burns and bruises that investigators said covered the girls from head to toe.

Court hearings had to be delayed because the girls were afraid to testify in front of Williams.

A teacher at Warrendale Elementary School in Warren saw marks on the girls last year. Williams was arrested Nov. 22.

Contact **DAN CORTEZ** at 586-469-1827 or [dcortez@freepress.com](mailto:dcortez@freepress.com).

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July 13, 2007

## Adoptive mom gets 25 years for abusing twins

Edward L. Cardenas / The Detroit News

**MOUNT CLEMENS** -- A prosecutor read emotional letters in court Thursday from twin sisters whose adoptive mother was sentenced to 25 years in prison for abusing and torturing them.

The letters were read before Tamika Williams, 30, was sentenced by Macomb County Circuit Judge Mary Chrzanowski.

"I feel that Tamika should go to jail because she did us bad," wrote one of the 8-year-old girls in a letter read by assistant Macomb County prosecutor Jennifer Andary. "I wish she would have never adopted us and we would have stayed with our other foster mother that had us."

The girls, who testified against Tamika Williams during her trial, had to be coaxed into the courtroom. One crawled through a door and onto the witness stand.

As Andary read a letter from the second sister, Williams shook her head from side to side.

"I will never forget the day of Christmas which was supposed to be special, then we got beat on that special day," the girl wrote. "I prayed and cried every day to get out of the house. I am sorry you have to go to jail but I will never miss you."

Williams was sentenced by Chrzanowski to a maximum of 25 years in prison for two counts of torture and two counts of first-degree child abuse. She was convicted by a Macomb County jury in June.

"What this woman did was a shock to the conscience," said Macomb County Prosecutor Eric Smith. "We seek to send out the message you are going to be held accountable."

Williams was convicted of abusing the girls from the time she adopted them in September 2005 until November 2006, when teachers at Warrendale Elementary School noticed the girls' injuries from an exercise tool, cable cord and cigarettes, and reported them to authorities.

"I am not like that," Williams said. "I've taken good care of my children."

Chrzanowski was not moved by her pleas.

"You are not here to convince me of your guilt or innocence," she said. "What saddens me is the State of Michigan trusted you with the care of these children. I am hoping it was a rare mistake for having these children placed with you."

Defense attorney Ronald Goldstein said he still had questions about what had occurred at the home and expects his client to appeal the decision.

You can reach Edward L. Cardenas at (586) 468-0529 or [ecardenas@detnews.com](mailto:ecardenas@detnews.com).

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## Woman Gets Up To 25 Years For Torturing Adopted Twin Daughters

POSTED: 4:03 pm EDT July 12, 2007

UPDATED: 6:57 pm EDT July 12, 2007

**MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich.** -- A 30-year-old Warren woman convicted of torturing her adopted 8-year-old twin daughters was sentenced Thursday to up to 25 years in prison.

Tamika Williams was convicted last month of two counts each of torture and first-degree child abuse.

She stabbed the girls with glass and knives, beat them with cable wire, shoes and exercise equipment, bathed them in bleach water, burned them with cigarettes and dunked them in a toilet filled with urine, according to court filings and prosecutors.

The children reportedly suffered bruises, welts and burns until they were taken from the home in November.

They are now in foster care.

Williams, who had adopted the girls from a home in Southfield, said the twins harmed themselves and that she didn't notice the marks investigators said covered the girls.

Court hearings had to be delayed because the twins were reportedly too afraid of her to take the stand.

Williams could have faced up to life in prison.

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## Mom gets 25 years for torture

Adopted twin girls, 8, burned, stabbed, washed in bleach water

A 30-year-old Warren woman convicted of torturing her adopted 8-year-old twin daughters was sentenced Thursday to up to 25 years in prison.

Tamika Williams was convicted last month of two counts each of torture and first-degree child abuse. She stabbed the girls with glass and knives, beat them with cable wire, shoes and exercise equipment, bathed them in bleach water, burned them with cigarettes and dunked them in a toilet filled with urine, according to court filings and prosecutors.

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Court hearings had to be delayed because the twins were reportedly too afraid of her to take the stand.

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## Bank wall crasher under house arrest

Thursday, July 12, 2007

### THE SAGINAW NEWS

An Albee Township mother of two must stay at home for having her unrestrained infant son on her lap when she intentionally rammed her truck into a bank's brick wall.

Carrie L. Zervan, 23, who lives at 12670 East, will remain under house arrest for a year and serve five years of probation for safebreaking and second-degree child abuse. She committed the crimes Feb. 4, 2006, at the Montrose State Bank branch at 10811 Albee (M-13).

Saginaw County Circuit Judge William A. Crane found Zervan guilty after a bench trial.

Crane ordered Zervan to pay \$12,852 in restitution and \$120 in fees and fines.

Police said Zervan had her unrestrained 7-month-old son on her lap when she rammed her Dodge pickup into the branch. Zervan and her son suffered minor injuries, police said. Her other child was not in the truck, they said. v

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## Guilty verdict brings relief to victim, prosecutor

**LAPEER CITY**

**THE FLINT JOURNAL FIRST EDITION**

Friday, July 13, 2007

**By James L. Smith**

**jmsmith@flintjournal.com • 810.766.6365**

LAPEER - An assistant prosecutor could barely contain his emotions Thursday after a jury found Andrew J. Boyle Jr., 41, guilty of two attempted sexual assaults in Hadley Township in April 2006.

A victim also expressed her relief at the convictions.

"In my 11 years as a prosecutor, I've never wanted a guilty verdict more than this," said Chief Assistant Prosecutor Mike Hodges. "This guy is dangerous, and there is no reason for him to be in our society."

The five-man, seven-woman jury deliberated about four hours over Wednesday and Thursday before finding Boyle guilty of two charges of assault with intent to commit sexual penetration, a felony that carries a maximum 10-year sentence.

Jurors convicted Boyle despite not hearing that he was convicted of a similar crime in 1991 after he held an 11-year-old girl at the point of a shotgun in his parents' bedroom and made her undress.

According to police reports, Boyle released the girl when she began to cry.

Boyle was sentenced to a 5-15 year prison sentence in that case, and served all but 19 days of the maximum sentence, being released in 2005.

In 1989, Boyle was convicted of felonious assault for pulling a knife on a woman in the women's bathroom at the Burton Meijer store.

In the most recent cases, victim Julie Gatchell was in the courtroom when the verdicts were announced, and said she was relieved Boyle would be headed back to prison.

"We weren't sure what we were going to do if he was found not guilty," said Gatchell, who lives in Hadley Township with her husband and 10-year-old daughter. "I knew we wouldn't feel safe living close to him."

Gatchell testified that Boyle approached her house and attempted to enter her house through a screen door in April 2006.

She was unaware that Boyle, who lives nearby, was a convicted sex offender at the time he tried to enter her home.

A 15-year-old girl also testified that Boyle persistently tried to enter her home, also near Boyle's house, during the same time.

Boyle's first trial ended in a mistrial when one of the witnesses hinted at his previous convictions.

Holowka set sentencing for Aug. 20.

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**FRIDAY**  
July 13, 2007

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## Missaukee County seniors to pay for COA aid

BY SALLY BARBER,  
CADILLAC NEWS

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LAKE CITY — Missaukee County seniors will be helping to bear the cost of Commission on Aging services to ensure programs survive.

The COA board approved two new policies requiring clients to pay nominal fees for service.

Beginning Oct. 1, clients receiving homemaking, personal care and in-home respite care will pay a monthly fee of \$10. For basic snow removal service, clients will have the opportunity to purchase vouchers covering 50 percent of the cost. However, persons with a household income at 125 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines may be eligible to have both fees waived.

Demand for service is increasing at the same time cost of providing service is rising, according to Pam Niebrzydowski, RN, COA director. Because the agency is not considered a non-profit, it is limited in its grant-seeking ability. The policies will help COA stretch funds to continue to provide advocacy and assistance to these 60 years and older.

"Our purpose is to help the frail and elderly stay in their homes as long as possible," Niebrzydowski said.

The \$10 service fee is anticipated to generate about \$9,500 to supplement millage and other revenues. Reducing fiscal support for the snow removal program will also boost the budget. Last year, the agency's snow removal program served 300 individuals at a cost of \$40,000.

"People are going to be more accountable for how often they need their drives plowed," Niebrzydowski said in a report to county commissioners. She noted seniors may use discretion and choose to forego plowing when a melt is imminent or for minor snowfalls.

Despite new cost shares, Niebrzydowski said the services continue to be a



Sally Barber | Cadillac News  
Seniors Jean Laverdiere and Barbara Glavanovich enjoy congregate meals at the Lake City Senior Center. Missaukee County is home to 2,800 men and women ages 60 and older. Beginning Oct. 1, Missaukee County Seniors participating in Council on Aging programs will have to pay a monthly service fee.

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bargain for the elderly.

A one-half mill tax levy is the agency's primary source of income. On property with a State Equalized Value of \$100,00, homeowners pay about \$50 annually. The millage is estimated to provide \$249,000 in 2008. Other funding sources include the Department of Human Services, and the Area Agency on Aging. COA's budget for 2008 is \$423,800.

Missaukee County's COA employs a staff of 27 staff and independent contractors. The COA board approved wage increases for staff at a rate of 1 percent for workers employed one to three years; 1 1/12 percent for those employed three to six years; 2 percent for anyone employed for six to 10 years; other wage hikes will be addressed on a case by case basis.

[sbarber@cadillacnews.com](mailto:sbarber@cadillacnews.com) | 775-NEWS (6397)

Your Local Connection

Missaukee County Council on Aging

Services provided in 2006

8,577 hours of homemaking

4,332 hours of home chores including snow removal and lawn care

1,577 hours of personal care

1,336 hours of respite care

2008 primary revenue sources

Taxes: \$249,000

Department of Human Services: \$20,000

Area Agency on Aging: \$42,000

MDOT transportation grant: \$17,000

In-home service fee: \$9,600

Total revenues: \$423,800

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## Program offering free meals to kids

By: Danielle Portteus story updated July 12, 2007 11:49AM

Advertisement



Area children can receive free lunches during the summer through a national program.

The Summer Food Service Program for Children is a federally funded program operated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administered at the state level by the Michigan Department of Education.

Locally, both the Salvation Army of Monroe County and the Monroe Housing Commission are participating in the effort.

Jeremy West, outreach director for the local Salvation Army, said the program provides lunches to any child 2-18.

"We want to make sure the kids are receiving a nutritious meal because it may be the only one they receive that day," he said. "Some parents cannot afford to provide these kinds of meals."

Mr. West said the meals follow specific guidelines for nutrition and consist of a combination of meat, vegetables, fruits and chocolate milk. He said the lunches are similar those provided to children during the school year.

"We want to be sure kids are getting at least one nutritious meal a day," Mr. West said.

The Salvation Army has hosted the program for the past four years, but this is the first year it is open to all children, he said. Previously, the program was open only to those who participated in the Salvation Army's programs.

Mr. West said an average of 40 to 50 children have been attending the free meal program each day this summer.

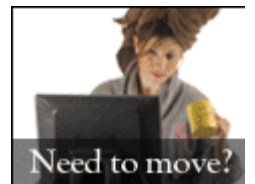
The Monroe Housing Commission also is offering meals to children 18 and younger, as well as those 26 and younger with a documented disability.

Sue Sargent, director of Speckled Frog Learning Center, said the menu is posted outside the center each day. In June, she said, the center served 1,300 lunches, with an average of 95 meals served each day.

"We would like to feed more children," Ms. Sargent said. "Most of these kids have free or reduced lunches during the school year, and we want to feed them in the summer."

The Summer Food Service Program for Children was created in 1968 to ensure children in low-income areas could continue receiving meals during school vacations when they do not have access to school lunch or breakfast.

For more information, call the Salvation Army at 241-0440 or the Monroe Housing Commission at 242-5880.





## Crash victim's mom fights to keep her other kids

Friday, July 13, 2007

By John Tunison

**The Grand Rapids Press**

GRAND RAPIDS -- As a mother of five awaits her daughter's funeral Saturday, she is hoping to keep the state from putting her other children in foster care.

Graciella Trevino was in Muskegon County Family Court today for a hearing, just four days after her 15-year-old unlicensed daughter was killed in a two-car collision in Robinson Township.

The Department of Human Services temporarily took custody of a newborn daughter Wednesday after a hearing in Kent County before a court referee.

Trevino gave birth to the child July 3 in Grand Rapids.

The referee then sent the issue to Muskegon County for further hearings because Trevino was previously dealing with child-custody issues there.

Her children had been in foster care, but were returned in the weeks before the crash.

Her oldest child, Claudia Trevino, died in the collision. Three other children, ages 14, 9 and 5 are at Spectrum Health Butterworth Campus with injuries.

Graciella Trevino's latest court issue stems from reports that she allowed her daughter to drive before, knowing she had no driver's training and was not licensed. Police confirmed the allegations after Monday's crash.

Meanwhile, friends of the Trevino family remembered Claudia Trevino as a "very bright, very headstrong" young woman.

"She was an A student," said a family friend, Eva Hoekstra. "She loved her mom and her family."

The 15-year-old was a student at Lakeshore Middle School in Grand Haven earlier this year and was part of the Calling All Colors programs sponsored by the Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance.

Her mother has been a migrant worker in West Michigan for the past seven years. Graciella and Claudia Trevino are not U.S. citizens, but the other children are, police said.

Hoekstra said Claudia helped her mother care for the younger siblings.

"Her personality was outgoing," Hoekstra said. "Nobody was a stranger."

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# Child found with mother's dead body leaving foster care

Matt Campbell

Created: 7/12/2007 6:36:07 PM  
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Muskegon - The five-year-old girl who survived for several days in the same house with her dead mother will soon leave foster care.

Marisa Tietz has spent the last five months in foster care.

Tomorrow, a relative of her mother, Tina Tietz, will take custody of the girl.

Tina died in February of bacterial meningitis.

A friend discovered Tina's body in her Whitehall home several days later - and found Marisa fending for herself in the house.

She will not be officially adopted by the relative until a hearing in two to three weeks.

The judge is expected to removes the parental rights from Marisa's father, who is currently in prison.

Web Editor: [Chris Zoladz](#), Associate Producer

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Published July 13, 2007

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## Health tab: Capitol group studying benefit gap likely to find no easy answers

A Lansing State Journal editorial

State Rep. Mark Meadows is leading a new legislative panel to study how in the heck Michigan will pay for the health-care commitments it has made to state employees - workers and retirees.

Meadows says Michigan confronts a \$23 billion unfunded liability in the health account. And he wants to learn from neighboring Wisconsin exactly how that state has managed to avoid any funding gap in its own system. That's right: Michigan is down \$23 billion; Wisconsin's even.

The East Lansing Democrat and his committee, which includes Rep. Brian Calley, R-Portland, are un-likely to find any magic wands or easy outs. On health benefits, the general formula is you pay or you cut.

And the state of Michigan, like countless other governments around the nation, has been promising health benefits for the future while confining its payments to the present. As Meadows explained it, Michigan has been "a pay as you go state forever" on health benefits.

This means that while Michigan was promising to pay benefits later, it was only paying benefits used immediately. This creates an actuarial unfunded liability - the \$23 billion now staring the state in the face.

Wisconsin, too, had an unfunded health benefit liability. But in 2003, lawmakers there merged its health and pension liabilities together and authorized the sale of \$1.8 billion in state bonds to cover them. Such pension bonds aren't new - and still leave the state with a liability. Wisconsin closed a health gap by opening a bonding one.

On the benefit side, Meadows says he wants to save the state money, but still provide health care for retirees. He said his committee would be looking at such issues as cost-sharing (with workers), means-testing for benefits and the minimum age for receiving services. Everything has to be on the table.

Meadows pointed out the state's pension program "is in great shape." Unlike with health coverage, Michigan has pre-funded its pension liabilities - it paid up front.

That's no longer an option on health care. So, state leaders either have to find major concessions from employees and major administrative savings, or ask for some serious dollars from taxpayers.

We hope Meadows' panel can find a good answer.



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## GOP lawmakers call veto threats on children's health insurance program premature

**KEVIN FREKING***Associated Press Writer*

WASHINGTON — Two Republican senators said Thursday the Bush administration should pull back from talk about vetoing legislation that would renew a health insurance program for children.

Sens. Charles Grassley of Iowa and Orrin Hatch of Utah said President Bush first should give the Senate Finance Committee a chance to offer its proposal. They are the committee's top two Republicans.

"It's disappointing, even a little unbelievable, to hear talk about administration officials wanting a veto of a legislative proposal they haven't even seen yet — because it isn't even finalized yet," the senators said in a joint statement.

At issue is the State Children's Health Insurance Program. About 6 million participants are children and 600,000 are adults. The program subsidizes the cost of health coverage for families whose incomes are too high to qualify for Medicaid but not enough to afford private insurance.

Democrats originally proposed adding \$50 billion over five years, which would bring total spending to \$75 billion. Bush recommended adding \$5 billion.

Recently, lawmakers have indicated that a proposal being negotiated among senators on the committee would produce an increase of \$35 billion.

Grassley and Hatch said they could support such an increase, paid for with higher tobacco taxes. They said the administration needs to understand that without bipartisan input, Democrats could get the additional dollars they seek simply by attaching the measure to must-pass legislation at the end of the year.

Bush has not said he would veto the bill coming from the Senate. But Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt and other officials have made clear their dislike for the spending increase under consideration and referred to the program as government-run health care.

If a huge expansion were proposed, the president's senior advisers certainly would recommend a veto, White House spokesman Tony Fratto said.

"We intend to reauthorize this important program in a way that adheres to the program's mission — helping poor children," he said.

Bush said this week he objects to government providing incentives for people to leave their private insurance coverage. "I will resist Congress's attempt to federalize medicine," he said.

Grassley and Hatch said they would like to consider the president's proposals to change how tax law treats health insurance. Such changes could make insurance more affordable for many families, but now is not the time, they said.

"Not taking that (tax proposal) on is a missed opportunity, but it's not realistic given the lack of bipartisan support," the senators said.



In this photo provided by CBS, Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, appears on CBS's "Face the Nation" in Washington, Sunday, July 8, 2007. (AP Photo/CBS Face the Nation, Karin Cooper)

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